

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 SNM-02 SS-15 NSC-05 EB-07 SP-02

L-03 IO-10 INR-07 CIAE-00 OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 /071 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:RRSTRAND:GJB

APPROVED BY AF/C:WLCUTLER

S/NM:SVANCE (SUBS)

AF/EPS:RDUNCAN (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179625

E.O. 11 5 ; GDS

TAGS: N, ECON, CG

SUBJECT: IMF MISSION; FRENCH AID; REYNOLDS INTEREST

REFS: A) KINSHASA 7041; B) KINSHASA 6905; C) KINSHASA
6756

1. AMBASSADOR VANCE MET WITH DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR DALE AND RUSSO OF IMF JULY 29 AND DESCRIBED TO THEM HIS RECENT DISCUSSIONS OF ZAIRE'S FINANCIAL PROBLEM WITH MOBUTU AND BISENGIMANA (REFS B AND C). VANCE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF HIGH-LEVEL LEADERSHIP OF PROPOSED IMF MISSION AND URGED DALE TO CONSIDER LEADING MISSION HIMSELF, IF ONLY FOR INITIAL CONTACT WITH MOBUTU.

2. DALE CONFIRMED THAT NO INVITATION YET RECEIVED FROM GOZ. HE SAID THERE WAS NO PRECEDENT IN IMF HISTORY FOR SOMEONE AT HIS LEVEL LEADING COUNTRY MISSION BUT THAT GIVEN CIRCUMSTANCES HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES WOULD CONSIDER IT. RE TIMING, DALE AND RUSSO POINTED OUT THAT UNLESS INVITATION FROM ZAIRE RECEIVED VERY SOON, IT WOULD BE
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IMPOSSIBLE TO ORGANIZE MISSION TO TRAVEL UNTIL AFTER ANNUAL

IMF/IBRD MEETING, I.E., UNTIL MID-SEPTEMBER.

3. CHARGE PLEASE PASS BISENGIMANA FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM VANCE:

QTE I HAVE MET WITH DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR DALE OF THE IMF, WHO HAS ASSURED ME THAT THE IMF IS READY TO SEND A HIGH-LEVEL MISSION TO ZAIRE WHENEVER THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE EXTENDS AN INVITATION. THE IMMINENCE OF THE ANNUAL IMF-IBRD MEETING, WHICH IS TO TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON THE FIRST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER, MAKES IT NECESSARY, HOWEVER, THAT AN INVITATION BE RECEIVED IMMEDIATELY IF A MISSION IS TO BE MOUNTED BEFORE MID-SEPTEMBER. UNQTE

4. IN DISCUSSION WITH BISENGIMANA, YOU SHOULD AVOID CREATING EXPECTATION THAT MISSION WILL BE LED BY ANYONE HIGHER THAN DINI, WHO FOLLOWING RECENT PROMOTION TO POSITION OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AFRICAN DEPARTMENT STANDS ON SECOND ESCHELON BELOW DALE (AFRICA DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR TOURE STANDS BETWEEN THEM).

5. SUGGEST CHARGE TAKE OCCASION OF MEETING WITH BISENGIMANA TO FOLLOW UP ON TWO OTHER MATTERS:

A. DETAILS OF FRENCH PAYMENTS RELIEF OFFER. VANCE HAD NO TIME TO GET DETAILS BISENGIMANA OFFERED TO GIVE OF FRENCH RELIEF PACKAGE DESCRIBED IN GENERAL TERMS BY MOBUTU (REF C). SUGGEST YOU TELL BISENGIMANA THAT VANCE ASKS THAT HE PASS THIS INFORMATION TO YOU IF HE HAS NO OBJECTION, EXPLAINING THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO VANCE IN HIS MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON.

B. REYNOLDS INTEREST. PLEASE INFORM BISENGIMANA THAT VANCE NEGLECTED TO TELL HIM OF TALK HE HAD WITH MR. REYNOLDS OF REYNOLDS ALUMINUM BEFORE VANCE'S RETURN TO KINSHASA FOR SECOND VISIT. REYNOLDS HAD ASKED VANCE TO ASSURE GOZ THAT HIS COMPANY REMAINED INTERESTED IN ALUMINUM PROJECT AND WAS WORKING TO ARRANGE FINANCING. GIVEN THEIR CONTINUED ACTIVE INTEREST IN PROJECT, THEY
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WERE SOMEWHAT PUZZLED BY REPORT THAT GOZ HAD SIGNED CONVENTION WITH ALUSUISSE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FINANCIAL STABILITY, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, ALUMINUM, FOREIGN INVESTMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE179625
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RRSTRAND:GJB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750263-0038
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975077/aaaaagfo.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KINSHASA 7041, 75 KINSHASA 6905
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 SEP 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <17 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IMF MISSION; FRENCH AID; REYNOLDS INTEREST
TAGS: ECON, CG
To: KINSHASA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006